



#7/Pre-0  
Q. Fred  
12/2/00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. Of: HIROAKI YOKOYAMA  
Serial No.: 08/992,767  
Filed: December 17, 1997  
For: CONTACT STRUCTURE IN SEMICONDUCTOR ...  
Group: 2814  
Examiner: D. Wille

DOCKET:  
NEC-19654 CON

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DEC - 6 2000  
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The Honorable Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the subject CPA, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel claim 2, without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 3, 4 and 6 as follows:

1. (Four Times Amended) A semiconductor device including both a large-diameter contact hole [having an aspect ratio of not greater than 2] and a small-diameter contact hole [having an aspect ratio of greater than 2] formed to penetrate through an insulator film formed on a conductive portion to reach said conductive portion, each of said large-diameter contact hole and said small-diameter contact hole having a funnel-shaped portion formed on an upper portion thereof to open or spread

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